

SAPC-2019✓

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6 October 1955

25X1A
Dear []

25X1A

25X1A
You will have by this time received [] letter of 29 September which he wrote in answer to your letter of 28 September. He explained to you the circumstances under which he opened and read your letter and replied to it. There is not much that I can add to [] reply. Naturally, I am concerned at the (relatively minor) frictions and the understandable divergencies of approach as between yourself and [] of which your letter gives evidence. But from your account it sounds to me as if they really were innocent in intent and as if they could readily be resolved if you can discuss them in a free and open manner with one another.

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You are quite right that I hope and expect [] (and his successor) will delegate to you and leave in your hands the management of the Base and the performance of support functions, and will concentrate on operational matters himself. We discussed these matters with him before he left here and I am confident that he fully accepts this conception. On the other hand, it is understandable that at a time when he is new to his job and sees much to be done he should drive ahead enthusiastically, perhaps without adequate consultation with you on certain matters. Also, it will not be in the least surprising if it takes us all a little time and patience to shake down the relationships between military officers and civilians in this project. They are apt to approach their jobs with somewhat different backgrounds of experience and certainly the history in our whole organization is that it takes some time for them to learn one another's ways. I am, therefore, neither surprised nor greatly disturbed at the difficulties that have cropped up so far.

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What does worry me, however, is that you and [] may not have talked these matters over together. Although we will do everything in our power at Headquarters to delineate responsibilities clearly, a satisfactory relationship between yourself and [] (and his successor, the permanent Base Commander) must ultimately be worked out by the two of you. This will become more difficult, it seems to me, if for any reason the two of you cannot or do not discuss in a friendly manner any potential differences of approach to your closely related jobs. Once there is an accumulation of disagreement or disapproval, it is harder to straighten out any relationship. I hope therefore you will do everything in your power to establish a kind of close communication with [] and his associates that will forestall future difficulties.

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We will take enough time to brief the permanent Base Commander when he is assigned and we will make clear to him our hope that the division of responsibilities will be substantially as represented on the organization chart that was drawn up by you, [] upon the occasion of the last named individual's visit to the Base. In the meanwhile I hope things go well. I particularly hope that the new member of your family you are expecting arrives smoothly and on time. Take as much time as you need to be on hand for this most important event.

My warmest personal regards,

Yours,

/s/

[]

25X1A

RMB:gjg

O - Forward

✓ - RMB Project Chrono